



The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Office of the Bishop *The Right Reverend M. Thomas Shaw, S.S.J.E.*

October 28, 2008

Members of the Vestry and
Congregation
St. James Church
1991 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02140

Dear Parishioners:

I am writing to tell you how impressed I am with the preliminary work you have done with the Episcopal City Mission and the vestry concerning the St. James redevelopment project. I think it is a project of extraordinary vision which could be a model for a number of our parishes in the diocese. We all know how important it is for the witness of the church for St. James to be where it is in Porter Square and the tremendous possibility to spread God's word through the building and your congregation. We also know how very difficult it is to mend our beautiful old buildings against the ravages of time and I believe this bold step of yours ensures the future of St. James and most importantly the possibility of Christ's message being spread in your part of Cambridge. I cannot think of a parish with all your credentials and commitment which could better tackle such a project and I want to assure you of whatever support we can give you from the diocese as you go forward with this project.

I have had some discussions with Bill Haynesworth, President of ECM, and he has a tremendous amount of experience in development and housing. When we reviewed St. James's project, he felt it was viable and he was very optimistic about its potential.

Please know of my prayers and gratitude to all of you for considering this project.

Faithfully yours,

M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE



Inviting
Forming
Sending
Serving